

Shooting, Sightseeing, and Safety

For use with: *Arizona Wildlife Views Television Show, 07-08 Season, Episode 2*



Human-Environment Interactions; Outdoor Recreation

Time Frame: 2-3 hours

Grade: 4-8

Overview:

This video focuses on some of the major events and activities that the Arizona Game and Fish Department offers in an effort to get people outdoors to enjoy nature. Students will have the opportunity to think through and plan a large outdoor event at their school grounds.

Essential Questions

- How can human activities benefit and harm wildlife?

Objectives

- Describe two activities used to promote hunting and outdoor recreation.
- Develop a plan to host a major event.
- Present plan to a pre-selected group of decision makers (i.e., school board).

Arizona Department of Education Standards

Science

4 th grade	5 th grade	6 th grade	7 th grade	8 th grade
S3-C1-PO1	S3-C1-PO3			S2-C1-PO4

Math

4 th grade	5 th grade	6 th grade	7 th grade	8 th grade
			S1-C2-PO10	

Listening and Speaking

4 th – 8 th grades	Workplace Skills 4 th – 8 th grades
LS-E2	1WP-E1 1WP-E8
	3WP-E2

Materials and Resources

- Copy of Arizona Wildlife Views episode



Teacher Preparation

- Acquire a copy of the television show. You can check local listings to determine when it will air and record it directly. You may also check the Department's web site to see if a copy can be downloaded or ordered.
- Write the vocabulary words and questions on the board.

Background Information:

This is not a lesson plan in the traditional sense. It does not provide step-by-step directions for completing an activity. Instead, it provides information to help you use an episode of the *Arizona Wildlife Views* television program in your classroom. It contains four suggested activities along with extensions and modifications. The first activity focuses on

vocabulary. We have provided and defined some of the words used in the video. You are encouraged to use any appropriate strategies to introduce these to your students. Then, there is a series of comprehension questions that students can answer while watching the video. Answers (directly from the video) are provided in italics. Next, the critical thinking questions build on the major concepts introduced in the

video. Students need to put a little bit more thought into these questions. Some reasonable answers are provided in italics. However, teachers should be cautious and realize that students may provide additional answers that can be supported with evidence. Finally, there is an in-depth activity. This activity allows students to evaluate and synthesize one or more of the concepts from the video, perhaps applying it to a new context or utilizing additional skills.

This episode originally aired on PBS (KAET, Channel 8) in Phoenix on January 27, 2008. It may also be shown on regional PBS stations or other channels. For additional viewing information or download options, please visit <http://www.azgfd.gov/focuswild>.

Additional information about the events described in this episode can be found at:

- ✓ First Shots: http://www.azgfd.gov/outdoor_recreation/first_shot.shtml
- ✓ Outdoor Expo: <http://www.azgfd.gov/expo>
- ✓ Small Game Camps: <http://www.azgfd.gov/smallgamecamps>
- ✓ Trailblazer Adventure Program: http://www.azgfd.gov/i_e/trailblazer.shtml

Relevant Vocabulary:

- Big Game – large, wild animals that are legally hunted
- Game – any animal that can legally be hunted
- Small Game – small, wild animals, such as quail, rabbits, and squirrels, which are legally hunted

Comprehension Questions:

1. According to the video, what is a major problem that hunting has? *Answer: The number of hunters is rapidly declining.*
2. Approximately what percentage of Arizona's population is licensed to hunt? You will need to calculate the answer from the numbers provided in the video. *Answer: Less than 2% of the state's population is licensed to hunt. There are about 5.5*

million people in Arizona with fewer than 100,000 licensed hunters.

3. What is the goal of the small game camps? *Answer: To introduce people to outdoor activities focused about hunting small game. People should learn how to camp, shoot safely, and prepare and cook the animals after a successful hunt. In addition, people should learn some basic information about the animals they hunt and the other animals they may encounter.*
4. What is the most important consideration when dealing with firearms? *Answer: Safety.*
5. Name three activities offered at the Trailblazer Adventure Day. *Answer: Archery, fishing, clay target shooting, .22 rifle shooting, firearms safety, wildlife knowledge.*
6. What is the goal of the Trailblazer Adventure Day? *Answer: To provide an all-around introduction to outdoor sports and the importance of conservation.*
7. What is ethical viewing of wildlife? *Answer: To observe wildlife from a distance that allows you to see the animals without disturbing their behavior.*
8. What techniques will increase your chance of seeing wildlife without disturbing them? *Answer: Be out when the wildlife are most active (typically at sunrise and sunset), move slowly and quietly, take time to stop and look around, and get a good pair of binoculars.*

Critical Thinking Questions:

1. The Arizona Game and Fish Department is greatly concerned about the declining number of hunters in the state. In what ways will the small game camps help address this problem? *Answer: One problem is the recruitment of new hunters. The small game camps provide a safe, inexpensive, and comfortable environment for inexperienced hunters to learn all of the necessary techniques to hunt successfully. As a result, new people may be brought into the sport. The other problem is retaining*

hunters who have become frustrated with not being drawn for preferred big game species such as elk and deer. The small game camps provide these people with opportunities to still participate in the sport.

2. Hunting is controversial. Many people support it, and others do not. However, hunting is considered a valid tool to help manage and conserve wildlife. In what ways can hunting benefit wildlife? *Answer: Hunting can be used to prevent populations from becoming overpopulated and destroying ecosystems. Money from the sale of hunting licenses, as well as excise taxes on hunting equipment such as guns and ammunition, is used to improve wildlife habitat, fund research, and protect threatened and endangered species.*

In-Depth Activity: Event Planning

This video describes three major events put on by the Arizona Game and Fish Department. Pretend that you have been asked to plan an event at your school. The goal of the event is to promote outdoor activities to the school and its surrounding community. When and where should the event be held? How long will last? What activities will you offer? How many participants could you handle? Who would you expect to participate? What experts would you want involved? Would there be a fee? What problems could you expect to encounter? How would you deal with these problems? These are just some of the factors you need to consider.

In small groups, develop a plan. Write your plan as a formal proposal to your school district or city council. Be sure to create a calendar that includes important dates and deadlines.

Differentiated Instruction:

Extensions:

- **Geography:** Take a walk around your school grounds or the neighborhood. As you walk, take note of interesting sites, focusing on wildlife-related sites such as the location of bird nests, duck ponds, etc. If possible, develop a series of walking trails that would highlight some of these locations. Create a map featuring the trails and sites.
- **Social Studies:** Hunting has been a part of our culture from the beginning. In many families, it is a tradition that is passed down through the generations. Unfortunately, it is a tradition that is disappearing. Identify other traditions in American culture or in your own family. Are any of them in danger of disappearing? What factors may be leading to the disappearance? What, if anything, should we do to preserve these traditions?

Modifications:

- Create a student handout with the vocabulary words and questions already provided.
- Provide students with the definitions and have them match them to the appropriate vocabulary words.
- Provide fill-in-the-blank responses for the Comprehension Questions, allowing students to listen for appropriate words to complete the sentences.
- Download the video transcripts and provide to students.



Reflection:

Use the space below to reflect on the success of the lesson. What worked? What didn't? These notes can be used to help the next time you teach the lesson. In addition, the Department would appreciate any feedback. Please visit <http://www.azgfd.gov/focuswild> and submit a lesson evaluation.